

FEB 5 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick

FROM: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: COMANCHE PEAK

In an anonymous memorandum to the Chairman dated October 4, 1989, a group of "NRC Staff Inspectors" expressed concerns about the readiness of Comanche Peak to load fuel, the draft SALP report and the SALP evaluation process. The Director of NRR treated the memorandum as a Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) and appointed a DPO Review Panel to evaluate the concerns in the memorandum. The enclosed memorandum to me from the Director of NRR describes the DPO Review Panel's findings and his disposition of the differing professional opinions.

In October 1989, an Operational Readiness Assessment Team (ORAT) inspection, that had been scheduled well prior to receipt of the DPO, was conducted at Comanche Peak. The team confirmed the onsite inspection staff's view that the licensee had substantial work remaining before the plant would be ready for fuel loading. A continuation of the ORAT inspection began on January 22 and an exit meeting with the licensee is planned for February 2, 1990. The plant appears to be substantially complete and the licensee appears to be ready to conduct low power operations safely. There are a number of last minute items that must be completed by the licensee and the staff. If no major problems develop, the staff expects to be able to issue a low power license to Comanche Peak Unit 1 within a week.

Original Signed By
James M. Taylor

James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure: Memorandum T. E. Murley
to J. M. Taylor, dtd 2/1/90

cc: SECY
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